Cash Payment to workers under rural employment schemes

2691. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) How the workers under various rural employment guarantee schemes would be given their food entitlement in view of the reported inadequate stocks in Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns;

(b) whether the workers will be given cash payment instead of payment in kind (foodgrains); and

(c) if so, in order to ensure that the full cash payment is received by the workers, whether Government are considering creation of post office bank accounts for each worker to transfer the cash payment directly into their accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Para 31 of Schedule-II of the NREG Act provides that the wages under scheme may be paid either wholly in cash or in cash and kind provided that at least one fourth of the wages shall be paid in cash only. The Central assistance to the States has been released in cash only.

(c) Payment of wages to the beneficiaries is to be made by the States. Some States are considering tie up with the banks and post offices for payment of wages to the beneficiaries through the bank/post office accounts.

Implementation of Gram Sadak Yojana in Goa

2692. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gram Sadak Yojana is being implemented in the State of Goa;

(b) the cost involved; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) 70 Roads works, over a length of 156.86 km, have been completed in Phase-I of PMGSY, for which an amount of Rs. 5.00 crore was released to the State. An equal amount was released to the State in Phase-II for which sufficient proposals were to be forwarded by the State Government. However, only 14 road works, over a length of 16.98 km, at a cost of Rs. 3.64 crore could be sanctioned in Phase-II, out of which the State Government has reported completion of two road works, over a length of 1.87 km. Expenditure of Rs. 32.00 lakhs has also been reported for this Phase. No proposal was received from the State for Phase-III. In Phase-IV, 6 road works, over a length of 4.32 km, have been approved at a cost of Rs. 1.08 crore which is to be met out of the savings available under Phase-II. No work of Phase-IV has been completed.

Grameen Sadak Yojana

†2693. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Central Government on Grameen Sadak Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether State Government also contribute in this scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development has spent an amount of Rs. 9005.70 crore on Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the period 2003-04 to 2005-06.

(b) and (c) PMGSY is a 100% Centrally funded programme. However, making land available for PMGSY road works is the responsibility of the State Governments. The State Governments are also expected to bear the tender premium, if any, and cost of maintenance.

Complaints about irregularities in PMGSY

2694. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about some irregularity and loopholes in Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in various parts of the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.